

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19 IO-14

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-05

COME-00 EB-12 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-03

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 FAA-00 CAB-09 DOTE-00

SCI-06 NEA-14 DRC-01 /236 W
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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9769

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

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SUBJECT: DANISH PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP TO CHINA

REF: COPENHAGEN 2734

BEGIN SUMMARY. DANES EXPECT TO DISCUSS TRADE
RELATIONS GENERALLY WITH PRC AND ATTEMPT TO
OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT TRADE
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COMMISSION DURING PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT. THEY

HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT POSSIBILITIES FOR SIGNIFICANT TRADE EXPANSION IN THE SHORT RUN. AVIATION QUESTION MAY BE TOUCHED ONLY LIGHTLY, WITH DANES POINTING OUT THEY HAVE NOT YET BUDGED SOVIETS ON OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS TO CHINA. END SUMMARY.

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH THUNE ANDERSEN, DIRECTOR OF NEW MFA OFFICE OF ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH STATE TRADING COUNTRIES, ECON COUNSELOR WAS TOLD THAT THUNE ANDERSEN WILL BE PRINCIPAL COMMERCIAL OFFICER ACCOMPANYING PRIME MINISTER HARTLING ON HIS OCTOBER 18-27 VISIT TO CHINA. (AMBASSADOR HARHOFF, REPORTED REF-TEL AS PART OF THE DELEGATION, HAS SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN DROPPED.) ACCORDING TO THUNE ANDERSEN, HE WILL BE EXPECTED TO WORK ON FRINGES OF DELEGATION, SETTING UP HIS OWN SCHEDULE WITH CHINESE TRADE OFFICIALS. HIS PRINCIPAL FOCUS WILL BE TO OBTAIN CHINESE AGREEMENT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT TRADE COMMISSION TO MEET ANNUALLY (IN RESPECTIVE CAPITALS) IN TIME FOR INCLUSION IN COMMUNIQUE AT END OF VISIT. HE SAID HE WILL TRY FOR AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES, AS DUTCH HAVE DONE, BUT WOULD BE WILLING TO SETTLE FOR VERBAL AGREEMENT, PLUS MENTION IN COMMUNIQUE, AS BELGIANS AND SWEDES HAVE DONE. ACCORDING TO THUNE ANDERSEN, JOINT COMMISSION WOULD HAVE LOOSELY DEFINED PURPOSE OF ACTING AS FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF TRADE MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN WITH OBJECTIVE OF PROMOTING AND SMOOTHING TRADE RELATIONS.

2. THUNE ANDERSEN SAID HE HAD NO EXPECTATIONS OF DEVELOPING LARGE TRADE OPPORTUNITIES WHILE IN PEKING, NOTING THAT DANISH EFFORTS OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS, STARTING WITH PEKING TRADE FAIR IN 1972, HAVE BEEN MARKED WITH ONLY MODERATE SUCCESS. HE FELT THAT, AS MUCH AS ANYTHING, CURRENT EFFORT IS INTENDED BY PRIME MINISTER TO IMPRESS ON DANISH BUSINESSMEN THAT HE IS AC-

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TIVELY HELPING THEM IN DRUMMING UP BUSINESS IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES. HE SAID THAT PM WILL BE HOLDING A MEETING WITH INTERESTED BUSINESSMEN NEXT WEEK TO HEAR THEIR PROPOSALS FOR TRADE DEVELOPMENT WITH CHINA AND WILL, IF REQUESTED, TAKE SPECIFIC OFFERS FOR THUNE ANDERSEN TO DISCUSS WITH CHINESE.

3. THUNE ANDERSEN NOTED THAT DENMARK NOTIFIED THE PRC ON SEPTEMBER - THAT IT WAS TERMINATING THE EXISTING TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AT THE END OF THE YEAR BECAUSE OF EC PROHIBITIONS AGAINST BILATERAL AGREEMENTS OF THIS SORT. AS A REPLACEMENT, DANES HAD SUGGESTED AN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT TO THE CHINESE BUT FOUND THEM UNINTERESTED; HENCE, THE PROPOSAL FOR A MORE MODEST AGREEMENT ON A JOINT COMMITTEE.

4. THUNE ANDERSEN SAID DANES WOULD NOT RAISE AVIATION QUESTION BUT THOUGHT CHINESE MIGHT ASK HIM HOW FAR THE SCANDINAVIANS HAD GOTTEN WITH THE SOVIETS ON OBTAINING OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING RIGHTS FOR CHINA ROUTE NEGOTIATED LAST YEAR. IN THAT CASE, HE WOULD SIMPLY SAY THEY HAD GOTTEN NOWHERE AND THEN, HE ASSUMED, HAVE TO SIT BACK TO LISTEN TO A LENGTHY CHINESE DIATRIBE AGAINST THE RUSSIANS.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITIES ON A DOWNTURN AND EXPORT MARKETS UNCERTAIN, DANISH GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE THIS YEAR IN PROMOTING COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN HERETOFORE FRINGE MARKETS, PRIMARILY THE MIDDLE EAST AND EASTERN EUROPE. THE CHINA VISIT WILL GIVE THE GOVERNMENT YET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR DANISH BUSINESS.
DUNNIGAN

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